



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

memorandum

DATE: 15 September 2003

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: Inspector General

SUBJECT: Delegation to Sign Subpoenas to the Deputy Inspector General/ Counsel in the Absence of the Inspector General

TO: Office of the Inspector General Staff

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you that I hereby delegate authority to the Deputy Inspector General/Counsel to sign subpoenas in my absence when I will be out-of-town and not expected back in the IG office within a 24-hour time period. This delegation is non-transferable. In the event the Inspector General and the Deputy Inspector General are unavailable to sign subpoenas, such subpoenas shall not issue.

The Inspector General Act gives each Inspector General broad duties and responsibilities. Each Inspector General is mandated to conduct audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of his or her agency, 5 U.S.C.App. §4(a)(1), and to work with other agencies and local government units to prevent and detect instances of fraud and abuse, 5 U.S.C.App. §4(a)(4). *Doyle v. U.S. Postal Service*, 771 F.Supp. 138 (E.D. Virginia 1991). To perform these investigatory and auditing functions properly, Inspectors General are given subpoena authority to compel the necessary documentary evidence. *Id.*

Given this broad responsibility, Congress stated in 44 U.S.C. § 3903(b) that the

Inspector General is authorized to select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Office of Inspector General.

This authority is identical to the authority granted to Executive Branch inspectors general, codified in the Inspector General Act of 1978, § 6(a)(1, 4), 5 U.S.C.A.App. 3, which authorizes the Inspector General to require by subpoena "the production of all ... documents ... necessary in the performance of the functions assigned by [the] Act." Section 6(a)(1, 4) of the Inspector General Act of 1978 is applicable to the GPO Inspector General's office pursuant to 44 U.S.C., § 3903(a).

Therefore, to manage GPO's OIG more effectively and in furtherance of the Inspector General's

responsibilities and duties, I believe it is necessary to issue this delegation. Therefore, the delegation is issued this day and is effective immediately.

s/ Marc A. Nichols
MARC A. NICHOLS
INSPECTOR GENERAL